

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, USDA

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COPIED: _____

24 Sea Hawk Drive
Ormond Beach, FL 32176
September 7, 1999

Dan Glickman, Secretary
USDA
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250

Dear Secretary Glickman:

I am writing to you because I am very concerned over the proposed voluntary versus mandatory industry labeling of foods containing genetically engineered ingredients. No business is going to forgo profit in favor of voluntary adherence to any set of standards that is "merely in the public interest".

It's time to put the best interests of the "public" before those of any other entity. The public is constantly being manipulated and deceived by special interest groups, and mandatory labeling is essential in order to protect them.

In a world with an ever-increasing population, and a corresponding loss of farm land, there is probably a need to perform research on biotech products. However, I am very much opposed to using public funds for that purpose. I do not want my government to fund pharmaceutical research, and I see no reason, therefore, for the USDA to be funding biotechnology experimentation.

Sincerely,



Deborah Ensign



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24 Sea Hawk Drive
Ormond Beach, FL 32176-2132



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USDA
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